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Newsletter

Number 18

23 July 2010



Website www.matarau.school.nz

Phone / Fax (09) 433 5823 **Email** – admin@matarau.school.nz

Thanks

.. Sharon Martin, Marise Dwight, Chris Sapwell and Jo Brunner for organising the School Ball. Christine Redwood and Jenny Wieggersma for catering and Dave Dwight for the creative carpentry. We hear it was a great night.
 .. Mark and Yvette Biddle for services "beyond the call of your contract" in getting the old school room ready for classes - this room looks great!
 .. Maria Fribbens for the fantastic staff dinner on interview night last term.
 .. Datson family for donating a large number of books to the school library.

People of the week

.. Grace for achieving 3rd overall at the 2010 Rock'n'Cheer Championships.
 .. Xanthe who has performed all her chores this week without being asked - and Xanthe even found some additional things to do just to help out.

New Virtue - CONFIDENCE

We are excited to announce that our virtue for the first half of this term is CONFIDENCE. You all know the drill ..

.. please read over the support material and discuss it with you child(ren)
 .. re-visit this material from time to time
 .. explain how confidence helped you to meet some challenge
 .. help your child(ren) find some opportunities to practise this virtue
 .. advise us of any successes so we can celebrate these through the newsletter.

Virtues Acknowledgement

Congratulations to the following children who were selected by their classes as "Shining Examples" of the Commitment Virtue at the end of last term. We hope your parents feel very proud of your efforts.

Rm 1	Brayden	Rm 1	Eve
Rm 3	Joshua	Rm 3	Sean
Rm 4	Alyssa	Rm 4	Charlie
Rm 5	Andrew	Rm 6	Sarah
Rm 7	Jessica-Lee	Rm 8	Ariah
Rm 9	Hayoon	Rm 9	Jimmy
Rm 10	Jacob	Rm 11	Georgia
Rm 12	Jackson	Rm 12	Mitchell

think... SOLD!

think yellow,
 think...

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Coming up

28 July	Class photos
3 August	International Schools English Exam
6 August	School Cross Country
9 August	Whangarei Girls' High School interviews
10 August	Meeting of Board of Trustees
11 August	Whangarei Boy's High school discussion - for parents and boys (1:45 PM Room 12)
12 August	Year 7 and 8 indoor bowls tournament
13 August	Senior Mathex
17 August	International Schools Mathematics Exam
18 August	Taniwha Challenge (Te Horo School)
23 August	Regional Science Fair (Forum North)
25 August	Year 7 and 8 Badminton Tournament
3 September	Interschool Cross Country Event
7 September	Senior Abseiling Day - A.H. Reed Park
7-9 September	Innovation class camp
14 September	Junior trip to Matapouri Beach
17 September	Rippa Rugby - Tournament 2
22 September	Northland Cross Country Championships
24 September	Final day of term 3

School Photos - 28 July 2010

If you would like to order a class, individual, family or team photo please complete and return, with money, by Monday. Family photos will be taken from 8:30 am on the morning of 28 July and so, if you would like a family photo please phone Helen on Monday to book a slot. Thanks.

School Cross Country

Please pencil 6 August into your diaries so you can spend a portion of our Cross Country day with us. For those new to the school this event is held on the farm opposite the school and the day breaks down roughly as follows (although these arrangements will be confirmed next week) ..

(Note : approximate times only - Presentation at 2:30 PM)

Year 7/8 Girls	Year 7/8 Boys	Year 5/6 Girls	Year 5/6 Boys
- 12:40	- 12:50	- 1:05	- 1:15
Year 4 Girls	Year 4 Boys	Year 3 Girls	Year 3 Boys
- 1:30	- 1:40	- 1:50	- 2:00
Year 2 Girls	Year 2 Boys	Year 0/1 Girls	Year 0/1 Boys
- 2:10	- 2:15	- 2:20	- 2:25

You can assist by ensuring that children have a change of clothes for practice runs over the intervening period as well as a drink bottle. You might also want to schedule some practice runs over weekends.

Sponsors of this year's Cross Country are Whangarei Physiotherapy and Alastair Rickey Decorating.

Interviews for parents of room 6 children

For reasons beyond our control parents of Room 6 children were unable to meet with Mr Schuster during mid year interviews held at the end of last term. Earlier this week parents of Room 6 children were invited to make an appointment to see Mr Schuster on Monday, Wednesday or Friday of next week (3:00 - 5:00 PM). If you have not yet made an appointment a time can be arranged by phoning the school office on Monday. If next week does not suit Mr Schuster is available at other times by appointment. He hopes to see as many parents as possible. Please remember to bring Learner Journey sheets and portfolios with you as well as any questions or suggestions. Plenty of slots available on the Wednesday.

Scholastic Book Club

Issue 5 went home this week. All orders and money back to the office by August 13th please.

International Schools English and Maths Exams

A reminder other test dates are as follows .. English 3 August .. Maths 17 August.

Practice papers are available from the office right up until test day. For most children perhaps 2 more papers for the English exam and then a bit of a break before test day. Although we have met children several times to discuss elements of test technique (including techniques for reading questions, checking back, and managing time), please feel free to contact Kevin if you notice some enduring problems here - happy to meet with your child to work with them individually on this.

Years 3 and 4 Parents Wanted

In term 4 Year 3 & 4 children will be on camp at Marsden Bay Youth Camp at One Tree Point. We would like to give you as much warning as possible to organise your work and family commitments to be able to attend camp and share a marvellous experience with your child/children. Year 4 camp 30th November to 3rd December, overnighting on the Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Year 3 camp 2nd and 3rd December, overnighting on the Thursday night. Permission slips will be sent out early in Term 4.

Senior School Request

Wanted: Free or cheap chicken coop for new chickens. Suitable size for about 4 or 5 chickens. If we can't find a chicken coop we would appreciate if we could have some materials such as chicken wire, wood, nails and fencing staples. If you could help us by donating any of these materials please see Mrs Williams in Room 10 or the chicken group.

School Production Request

This year the school production is called Marz, it is set in space and has a recycling/rubbish theme. This script has been based on a script of the same name by Pamela Uttinger and has been significantly changed by Matarau teachers.

Marz will take place later this term and rehearsals have already begun. As a result we require parental assistance to create fantastic costumes for our performers. If you have a sewing machine and/or any time to assist with making our costumes please email me, Simon Schuster, on sms.schuster@gmail.com

In addition to this we are also looking for a variety of equipment to be used as props. If you are able to give/lend any of the following, please email me also:

- Metal rubbish bin lids
- Garden brooms
- Fabric and/or Calico or similar
- Tarpaulins
- VIP red carpet or any red carpet
- Old News crew quality microphones
- Old broken cameras
- Bubble wrap

I can arrange pick up if you are unable to deliver it yourself. All offers will be gratefully accepted.

Term Headlice Inspection

If you are able to assist with this term's inspection please phone Donna Cates in the office. In the meantime parents are asked to check children's hair weekly and to take prompt action in the event of infestation.

Parents of Year 8 Students

Senior staff from Whangarei Boys High School will be visiting Matarau on Wednesday 11 August at 1.45 to speak about their school and answer any questions. All Year 8 Boys are strongly encouraged to attend, along with parents if you can make it. Parents of Year 7 Boys who would be interested in attending are also welcome.

Children remaining at school after bell

Please note that children remaining at school after 3:25 should be placed in After School Care unless they are travelling into town on the final (fifth) bus. The ASC programme has a special rate for users from 3:00 to 4:00 and so this is an ideal opportunity to have homework completed before they get home. Please book in to this programme by phoning 0278461724 if you know your children are at school after 3:25 - this way they will be properly supervised and gainfully employed.

Calf Club Day

.. will be held on Friday 22 October. We suggest that parents start thinking very soon about the sourcing of lambs and calves.

Out of zone enrolments

The school is receiving a number of enquiries about the procedures for out of zone enrolments for 2011. In mid-September the Board will advertise (Northern Advocate) the number of available places at each level of the school and invite expressions of interest. From this point expressions of interest will be registered for ballots to take place on 20 October. For more information on the balloting process, and for a zone description, please visit our website www.mataru.school.nz

If you know any families interested in an out of zone enrolment please ask them to contact our school office for an application form.

Out of zone Year 7 and 8 students

A specified number of places will be reserved in 2011 for year 7 and 8 students.

We think we offer something unique for year 7 and 8 students and are keen to hear from parents of potential students. We know from data, from secondary schools, and from reliable independent feedback, that our year 7 and 8 programme offers an exceptional and unique preparation for secondary school. Teachers in these classes are a reference point for colleagues in so many areas of expertise and provide comprehensive programmes built on the things that are known to make a long term difference to educational outcomes. Why pay for a private school when you can have all this paid for with your tax dollars. So .. please pass the news on to any friends with up and coming year 7 or 8s. Our year 7 and 8 programme has been one of the best kept secrets in town. Happy to meet parents and answer any questions. Information evenings to come - and some interesting research information on what really makes a difference to learning - you might be surprised.

Security

If able to go on the security call out list please phone Steve Martin on 4335061 or 0212460988. Call outs are few and far between these days and so seldom called on.

Community Notices

For Rent - 1 Bedroom Chalet, Rushbrook Rd, \$150pw. For more details phone Lillian or Hans 4365326.

For Sale - 3x paint ball guns - with helmets and paintballs. As new. \$750.00. Please phone Jackie 0212852350 or text.

Table Tennis - Now available at the new Northland Sports House. For more info contact Brent Davies, Table Tennis Northland.

Wanted - Orphan Lamb for loving home. Phone Jayne or Jess on 4335626 or 02111590219.

Zumba Classes - Matarau School Hall, Beginning Tuesday 27th July at 7.00pm. \$10/session or \$80/10 concession ticket.

Lupton House - Boarding hostel options available for students attending Whangarei Girls' High School. For more info please phone 437 7359 or email lupton@wgghs.school.nz.

New buildings

We are pleased to say that construction of our new junior block will begin shortly - we hope for completion by early term 4. This will be welcome news to junior teachers and students who have crammed into the library and uncomplainingly endured the long trek to toilets, running water etc. The new block will include three brand new classrooms, three special purpose offices, a new toilet block and a customised wet area. A little down the track an upgrade of the administration area will provide further much needed spaces.

Construction and the upper carpark

A reminder please ..

.. to use the lower bus bay for drop off and pickup where possible

And when using the upper carpark ..

.. to pull to the side and move off quickly (but safely) after drop off

.. to pick up at 5 or 10 minutes past 3 if you do not have any junior children

Final thought

Welcome to the third term. We have an exciting term ahead including cross country and school production, not to mention our new classroom block taking shape. Please get involved in the school to whatever degree time and inclination permit.

Last term told an intending year 1 student that we were so excited about her starting school and turning 5 that we had decided to build a new classroom block. She thought for the briefest of moments and asked "But will I get a locker and a bag hook". No pleasing some people.

Regards
Kevin Trehwella
PRINCIPAL

**Our Sponsors support your
children, please support them**

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